

BOOK TALK: Science/Fantasy Fiction

BOOK TITLE: The Hunger Games

AUTHOR: Suzanne Collins

This book takes place in a very different world, Panem. Sixteen year old Katniss Everdeen lives in this world that is controlled by The Capitol, which runs all districts of Panem. Katniss specifically lives in District 12 with her mother and sister, Primrose. In this world, people are forbidden to travel among districts, speak ill of the district, and barely have enough to survive.

In order for The Capitol to have power among the people of Panem, the districts of Panem are forced to participate and watch The Hunger Games. The Hunger Games, forces districts to send one boy and one girl from the district to compete in a competition, a fight to the death, which is all broadcast on live television. When Primrose is randomly chosen to compete in the competition, Katniss bravely volunteers herself to compete in order to save her sister's life.

The main characters of this story are Katniss Everdeen and Peeta Mellark. Katniss is a very strong, brave, and mature character. She does all that is in her will to provide for her mother and sister. The whole story revolves around her and her progress through the games. Peeta is the boy who is chosen to accompany her in The Hunger Games. He is physically strong, genuine, and has a softer side than Katniss. He plays an important supporting role in this story by guiding the plot of this story and the outcome of The Hunger Games. Peeta also provides the story with some romance.

The main characters did not surprise me much in this story. Katniss was predictable from the beginning. Her determination and love for her family is evident from the start, making her survival in the games inevitable. Peeta on the other hand was harder to predict. As a reader,

you do not know much about him making his intentions and actions hard to predict. He in fact does surprise me because he eventually ends up being a great asset to Katniss. Without him, Katniss would have never done well in the games.

Although my determination is focused in my studies, I feel like I can relate to Katniss because of her determination to survive for her family. Like Katniss, I have a goal set and family to make proud so I do everything I must to achieve my goal. Katniss is similar because she does all she can to get back Primrose, just like she promised. We both keep that in our minds when trying to reach our goals, mine my studies and for Katniss, her life.

This story is science fiction for many reasons. First, from the description of not yet invented technology. For example, when the book discusses an aircraft of sort that scoops people up with a ray, this obviously does not exist in this world. Following this further, Hunger Games is something that is unheard of and would never happen in real life, in other words, fiction. This is different than regular fiction because of the elements used to make this really over the top and defiantly not true.

Overall, my opinion of this story is positive. I enjoyed this book greatly! I feel all the twist, turns, ups, and downs kept me interested enough to keep reading this book. I would definitely recommend this book to others. The language used in this books is easy to understand which is good for those who may not like reading. The exciting and interesting plot will keep anyone reading!